

SN 09/776,086
Docket No. S-91,756
In Response to Office Action dated June 27, 2005

6

REMARKS

The applicants appreciate the Examiner's statement that Claims 7, 8, 16, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Claim 1 has been revised to include Claim 7, and Claim 8 revised to depend from Claim 1. Further, Claim 9 has been revised to include Claim 16, and Claim 17 has been revised to depend from Claim 9. Claims 4 and 14 are canceled, as these are method steps, not elements of an apparatus. Claims 6 and 15 have been amended to place them in a condition for allowance.

New Claims 26-29 have been added to claim the original Claim 1 configuration by limiting the apparatus to only the elements presented by using the phrase "consisting of" instead of the original "comprising" language. Thus, Applicant's invention is distinguished from the prior art of Woolley et al (US Patent 5,743,966) that requires a vacuum pump to operate (enablement). Thus, Applicant's invention can create an atmospheric pressure plasma, whereas Woolley's plasma requires an enclosure under vacuum conditions to operate properly.

Therefore, the Examiner is requested to allow Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, and 26-29, and to pass this case to issue.

Concerning Examiner's comment on Figure 1 not showing two power supplies, an amendment was sent on February 14, 2003, providing an updated Figure 1 showing power supplies labeled 15 and 16, respectively. Examiner's response of March 5, 2003 accepted the revised Figure 1. The revised Figure 1 is attached to this submittal.

Applicant's attorney would be pleased to further discuss this matter by telephone with the Examiner if the Examiner concludes such a discussion would assist in moving this case to issue.

No new matter has been added as a result of this response.

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7

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Respectfully submitted,


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